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According to statistics for 11 hsien of Hun-jung Hsien, Hunan, on the bank of Tung-t'ing Hu, as reported by the Committee of Economics of the Hun-jung Hsien People's Government, the farmers sold 60-70 percent of their early rice crop. They spent 23 percent of the money thus obtained to purchase materials for their supplementary productive enterprises, such as bamboo, hardware, tools, and fertilizer, and about 24 percent for oil, salt, cloth, and incidental necessities.

EARLY RICE PURCHASED IN CHEKIANG -- Tientsin, Ta Kung Pao, 5 Aug 53

In Chekiang Province, in the Chia-hsing Special Administrative District where early rice is harvested somewhat later than in Hunan Province the new crop is beginning to appear in the market. The food handling organizations in Chekiang have already established 1,700 grain-purchasing stations.

In general the buying of rice is from 5 to 10 days earlier than last year. Invariably the grain transactions account for 80-90 percent of the total trading in the daily market. By 27 July, the rice bought up had already reached 135 percent of previous estimates. The price established by the government is effective in all the purchasing stations.

Tientsin, Ta Kung Pao, 11 Aug 53

Early rice came on the market in Chekiang Province about 10 July. With the government offering a reasonable price the farmers were ready to sell and the amount sold increased rapidly from day to day. The state trading companies and the cooperatives accounted for about 90 percent of the rice market transactions. During the last 10 days of July, in such places as Chin-hua, Lan-ch'i, and Chu-chi hsien the amount sold in each hsien was from 150,000 to 200,000 catties each day. The highest figure was that in Yu-yao Hsien where one day about one million catties were sold.

The rice in Chekiang Province was of good quality, better than in other years and the percentage of moisture within the prescribed limits.

The cooperatives increased their proportion of purchases. Last year they bought about 60 percent of the rice that was for sale but this year in accordance with an agreement made with the Chekiang Provincial Grain Bureau they raised their percentage to 75 percent of what was for sale.

The selling price of early rice in Chekiang Province was about 6 percent above that of last year.

GOOD CROP IN KWANGTUNG -- Peiping, Jen-min Jih-pao, 4 Aug 53

The summer crop of rice in 1953 was the first in Kwangtung Province since land redistribution. With the exception of a few localities where natural disasters reduced the yield, in general throughout the province the early rice provided a good harvest, 10 percent better than 1952.

On Hainan Island, except for three hsien in the north that suffered from drought, there was a good crop of early rice.

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EARLY RICE HARVESTED IN SOUTHERN SZECHUAN -- Peiping, Jen-min Jih-pao, 26 Jul 53

The early rice harvest has begun in nine hsien of southern Szechuan. In Sau-ho Hsiang, Lung-ch'ang Hsien, the best rice stalks had 300 grains of rice, a 20 percent increase over last year.

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